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ABSTRACT

Based on multi-disciplinary academic research and professional practice, this book is a response to the current political and policy debates in Britain that maintain that "childhood" is in a state of "crisis"; that there is a breakdown in discipline, professional, or parental guidance; and that young people lack any sense of social responsibility. The work relocates the "crisis" in the legitimate challenges to adult authority and control rather than a disintegrating "childhood," and develops a critical agenda focusing on the structural and material realities that oppress young people and systematically deny them access to rights and liberties as active citizens. The chapters of the book are: (1) "'Childhood': An Introduction to Historical and Theoretical Analyses" (Barry Goldson); (2) "'Crisis': The Demonization of Children and Young People" (Howard Davis and Marc Bourhill); (3) "'Families' in 'Crisis'?" (Vicki Coppock); (4) "Prolonging 'Childhood', Manufacturing 'Innocence', and Regulating Sexuality" (Karen Corteen and Phil Scraton); (5) "'Crisis' in the Classroom" (Deena Haydon); (6) "Children in Trouble: State Responses to Juvenile Crime (Barry Goldson); (7) "'Mad', 'Bad', or Misunderstood?" (Vicki Coppock); and (8) "Whose 'Childhood'? What 'Crisis'?" (Phil Scraton. Contains over 570 references. (HTH)

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